• *In 1982 a group of futurists in Paris were discussing major possibilities over coffee. Their ideas were informed by an appreciation of the lessons of history and included the collapse of the USSR (since most empires last for a limited period) and the potential for conflict between the developed, wealthy West and the less powerful and generally poorer Islamic world.* Those forecasts showed remarkable foresight and were correct, yet could not be included in their formal work, being too challenging to the status quo. The most valuable information is often passed on over coffee, being not allowed in the institutional setting.

That last point illustrates how 'unexpected' trends can be forecast once one's mind is free from the constraints of 'conventional wisdom'. Futures research cannot exist as a truly scientific discipline until futures researchers are permitted - indeed encouraged - to 'think outside the square' and to 'think the unthinkable'. All too often future problems and challenges are met with denial as governments continue to expect 'business as usual' - and the most accurate forecasts are often those which are the most strongly repressed.

In order to formulate a robust most probable scenario (based on a considerable number of scenario exercises), I had to escape the ubiquitous institutional limitations and do the job myself. Free from institutional control and the self-censorship of political correctness and conventional wisdom, I developed an idiosyncratic theory of the global economy, took on board the extreme warnings of models which explored the consequences of limited food supplies for an increased population, and considered political systems in the light of historical experience where the struggle for global hegemony has been so significant. A study of history was key to that effort - wide-spread famine, disease, disruption and population collapse seems less unlikely, not impossible, when it is recognised that such events have occurred before. While built on information provided by many large-scale scenario projects, the final synthesis was guided by additional reading and by my own judgement. I feel that the effort was largely successful, but it was unpaid work, and I self-published the resulting books.

With those thoughts in mind, with an aim of building on past experiences and doing better this time, we should now plan to move into a further phase of macro scenario construction. There is a considerable body of analysis and scenario descriptions to build on, including a number of industry-specific New Zealand scenarios. What is required is the vision and the will to allow independent think tanks (adequately funded, adequately staffed, for an adequate period) to explore the long term. Since the most robust and valuable forecasts will be rejected and denied by influential bodies - including funding agencies each team must be guaranteed academic freedom and tenure. The few experiences noted here show that clearly.

My expectation, and forecast, is that no such vision exists, and that mankind - including New Zealanders - will continue to move blindly towards a most unpleasant future. Can we refute that expectation and move forward in a more positive and open process? It would be an exciting enterprise.

Wisdom and Knowledge Technology - The Secret is Out

Daniel Hancock

In the mid-1980's I did what most teens did - began asking the big questions about why we were here, and why there was so much violence in the world. Then one day my economics teacher boldly declared Bob Geldof's 1984 Live Aid concert was "guilty conscience money".

If the West was genuinely concerned for those in poverty they would simply construct fresh water, electricity, and sanitation services in Africa for free. At the time, the equivalent cost of this construction was approximately two weeks of the military budget of the USA. After arguing that global communism would never work, I was introduced to physicist Peter Russell's, *The Awakening Earth* followed in quick succession by Ram Dass', *Be Here Now*. It was Timothy Leary, Ram Dass' colleague at Harvard who coined the term "futant" - one who is genetically programmed to foresee and help fabricate the future evolution of human consciousness. It appeared to me that Peter Russell was definitely one of these. His claimed that if we invested a proportion of GDP into studying the nature of "mind" we would inevitably manifest some credible and amazing solutions. This is based on the idea that any crises, such as nuclear war, famine, or ecological disaster, have as its root cause, a crisis of consciousness. Engineer and futurist Buckminster Fuller claimed "there is no energy crisis, only a crisis of ignorance." Swiss psychiatrist Carl Jung said the real challenge to humanity is psychological in nature.

Twenty years on and it appears global conditions have deteriorated. *Sir* Bob Geldof is still hopeful music will raise consciousness, the USA is still spending billions of military dollars each week, we now suffer from a new source of insatiable fear - "terrorism", as well as imminent ecological collapse through our unsustainable addiction to SUV's, McMansions, and reality TV. There are now a few billion more of us here too. Yet, now I know much more about the psychological reasons as to why we suffer - and along with that, hopefully a solution.

Our current civilisation is the result of a paradigm based on the Primacy of Matter (PxM). The PxM fosters the belief our biological existence is the only reality we have. When we add the theories of 18th century economist Adam Smith of "invisible hand" fame we end up worshipping *materialism* and its key attribute - money. Our psychological delusion is so powerful we dropped the gold standard and introduced the fractional banking system so we can now make money up out of thin air. Our fear, combined with having to service the horrendous debt and interest costs we've conjured up makes us "think" we need unrestrained economic growth or the financial system will collapse. Economic growth is predicated on more mirage realism - the abundant supply of energy such as oil and natural gas. We are so addicted to money we even rob future generations through the immoral use of financial debt and fictitious pricing systems whereby we discount the value of their supply access to today's market. But psychologically, perhaps even more anesthetising than this, is the mixture of Social Darwinism (the absence of a Divine Creator) with those who believe they are doing the Creator's work! Under this scenario we manifest the absolute worst narcissistic crime in human behaviour - the pre-emptive slaughter and destruction of any group labelled as an actual or potential threat on either religious grounds, or on the basis of projections of our unwanted feelings and perceptions, regardless of these being true or not.

Yes - perhaps it's a bit more obvious now, with reports out like the Millennium Ecosystem project findings and the excellent work being done on Peak Oil that the human species is still in danger of imploding at any moment.

But there is hope! Given the PxM and its pitfalls, how would we implement Peter Russell's proposed solution to invest a proportion of GDP in research and development of the mind? Is it necessary to create a Ministry of the Mind, or a Department of Peace such as the one being attempted in the USA? Would this work in NZ? Probably not, as NZ is not a world power and thankfully does not have to be very security conscious. Ring fencing a pool of money in

terms of "investigating the powers of the mind" would be cannon fodder for opposition parties to shoot at. Imagine Rodney Hide asking questions in the House about a new initiative bid for a "mind" portfolio when beneficiaries and low income earners are prevented from being empowered by doing Yoga!

So, what is the magic bullet? What can we do to rid ourselves of predator behaviour that has resulted in mad scientists creating things like the atom bomb, biological weapons, and the Fox News channel? What approach can appeal to all people, teenagers and pensioners alike, and be integrated effectively into our governance policy through appropriations or R&D policy? What would a *futant* do?

Drum roll please.... enter Wisdom and Knowledge Technology (WKT). WKT is the process of creating and using any informative or energetic system that allows us to either access or manifest more resources that improves our physical, mental, or emotional states of well-being. WKT's main objective is to unleash human potential and approach self-actualisation to use our consciousness to become aware of, and satiate our *authentic* needs. The greatest resource available to the human species is consciousness. Without consciousness we have no life, and no awareness. To change our reality, we need to change our consciousness. Overall, WKT is the process by which we invest in a new paradigm - the *Primacy of Consciousness* (PxC).

The PxC values the condition of our internal state (thoughts, feelings and emotions) more than the material things we surround ourselves with. It validates the understanding that we are more accurately described as energy based beings and not Newtonian biological machines. It incorporates what quantum science calls "the Mind of God", or the Holographic Mind that we all have access to - a massive field of intelligent energy. This field is non-local and connects all of us regardless of race, religion, class. What I do to you, I do to me, and these actions are often a function of my internal state and my perceptions. How I talk to you, reflects how I talk to myself. The PxC requires us to take total responsibility for our actions and our relationship with others.

WKT is the next advance in the systems chain from computers and Information Technology (IT). When we took IT, which is really silicon based (crystals) as opposed to carbon based consciousness, added it to the post-industrial age, we created the Information Age. By adding WKT to the Information Age, we now have the Consciousness Age. WKT is the realm of energy psychology, energy medicine, sacred geometry, earth energies, anti-gravity, zero point energy, action at a distance, and other such things. It is an opportunity to integrate the findings of quantum science with mechanistic and universal spiritual belief systems without conflict. It is an over-arching strategic direction organic in nature, where subtlety and elegance is valued. Like IT did, WKT has the potential to revolutionise almost every facet of our lives. The cost benefit ratios are very positive because they're done using a full cost allocation methodology.

During my time at the Ministry of Economic Development I was part of the team that implemented the new initiatives programme secured by Jim Anderton as part of his Deputy Prime Ministerial portfolio, between 2000 & 2002. I was fortunate to work with highly qualified public and private sector economists and management experts. This experience compelled me to believe in and accept the efficacy of unleashing human potential through the medium of skills upgrades, forming industry and regional frameworks, and policies promoting sustainable economic development and from a systems theory perspective, a

whole of government approach. But it was in Washington D.C. in 2003 & 2004 where I finally began piecing together the relevant experiential bits of my twenty year search into an overarching psychological plan. Unleashing human potential is all about consciousness.

From an energetic perspective, the laws of thermodynamics state that in a closed system matter cannot either be created or destroyed, and that all energy gradually loses order and work value as it breaks down (entropy). We are fortunate because we have sunlight and gravity, extraterrestrial sources of unlimited energy. There is a *third* source of energy; one I believe is both a stock and flow asset - our consciousness! Consciousness can create coherence and order - negative entropy, as well as influencing matter. Investigative journalist Lynne McTaggart in *The Field* describes compelling scientific experiments successfully done with consciousness and coherence.

In *The Isaiah Effect*, geologist and computer systems designer Gregg Braden writes about the Isaiah Scroll - the most treasured and protected of the Dead Sea Scrolls. The Isaiah Scroll describes how the blueprints for all possible futures are already created. We are constantly being presented with *choice points* - the opportunity to take any one of these blueprints and through the power of intent transform "matter" into this reality. The Toltec nagual Don Miguel Ruiz claims that our Sun, just like our Earth, has its own consciousness and is connected to the galactic core, like the *Lokas* - planes of consciousness taught in the Vedic tradition. Light denotes information, and since 1992 the quality of the Sun's light changed whereby through vibration and frequency, humanity's consciousness is becoming more attuned to the perceptions of 'ether' and the 'etheric field' or subtle energies. Ancient civilisations, like the Romans, used the subtle energies of the Earth - ley lines, to finish conquering an enemy by building their strategic posts on the points where these lines interconnected. In Feng Shui, the Chinese call these dragon points.

Sri Yukteswar (guru to Paramahansa Yogananda) in *The Holy Science* describes the time of Dwapara Yuga when the orbit of our Sun takes us closer to the centre of our galaxy. When this occurs the information contained in the Light spectrum bathing the Earth's electromagnetic field accelerates. The minds of humanity are able to comprehend the finer electrical qualities of atoms and our interconnectedness to all life. Sri Yukteswar claims we are in the Dwapara Yuga now.

In *Visions*, Michio Kaku discusses the energetic astro-physicist model of evolution from a planetary type 0 civilisation, what we are now - using dead plants and animals to fuel our machines; to a Planetary type 1 civilisation. Type 1 is where we have transcended political and fear based attitudes to co-operatively create a terrestrially connected global energy grid, like that envisioned by Buckminster Fuller. So we must, dare I say it, *Think Big*.

Is NZ well suited to pilot and test a WKT approach? There is a school of thought that discusses the importance of mastering three legal documents by modern civilisation before globally we can have Heaven on Earth - the Magna Carta, the American Declaration of Independence, and the Treaty of Waitangi. It is no accident that NZ in addition to having a modern infrastructure, low population density, and relative isolation from the rest of the world, also has to deal with the integration of the consciousness represented by the third and final of these documents. The energy and consciousness that stands behind the articles of the Treaty of Waitangi are imbued with a spirit that if we are able to respect and honour takes us into a very advanced community of love and peace. To me, the Treaty expresses a heartfelt connection to this land as a treasure, because nature is alive. Our mountains, rivers, fjords,

and forests carry the consciousness of Mother Earth and that Spirit is all around us and responds to our hearts. It is contained in the Mind of God, and we must honour, respect, protect and nurture these at all costs. The unifying key that connects all these forms of energy is consciousness.

Finally, remember you heard it here first in *Future Times* - WKT, the secret is out!

Daniel Hancock is the Director of the Centre for Wisdom and Knowledge Technology Limited (www.cfwkt.com). He has a financial and management based background including work in the corporate sector and central government. Between 1990 - 1994, and 2002 - 2004 he worked for PowerCo Ltd, New Zealand's second largest energy lines company. From 1996 - 2002 he worked at the Ministry of Economic Development in its corporate office before being seconded into the greenfields team implementing the coalition government's frameworks relating to economic development, and industry and regional development. In 2004 Daniel travelled to Washington D.C. where he was inspired to self-publish *The American Meta-Economy; Atlantis Transformed* (ISBN 141202315-7). Over the last year he has reviewed over 30 publications on new science and findings, including personally meeting American scientist's and futurists Dr. Bruce Lipton and Gregg Braden. He travels regularly between New Plymouth and Wellington and can be contacted through the Centre's website.

A Thirty Year Saga of Long-term Planning in New Zealand.

Briony M Coote

New Zealand Planning Council and Commission for the Future

The Muldoon National Government was indirectly responsible for the establishment of the New Zealand Futures Trust. In 1975 the Government established NZFT's ancestor, the *Commission for the Future* (CFF) and its sister organisation, *New Zealand Planning Council* (NZPC) to raise awareness of the trends in NZ economics and society, limitations on resources and to set priorities on desirable social and economic goals. This was in response to growing social and economic turbulence and insecurity in the 1970s. Oil and energy crises threatened oil-dependent New Zealand industries and precipitated a substantial drop in the NZ standard of living. Unprecedented civil disruption, particularly on racial lines was exposing racial and income distribution inequalities. Also, it was the dawn of the computer age and accelerating change in automation, information and communication technology.

NZPC addressed short-medium term issues (5-10 years) and CFF long-term issues (10-25 years). CFF members included the Founder, Hon. Leslie Walter Gandar (Minister of Science), the Chairman James Duncan, a Government appointee (Hugh Templeton), an Opposition appointee (Roger Douglas), Dr. Edwin "Eddie" Robertson, Director General of the DSIR (NZPC/CFF appointee), Dame Silvia Cartwright and seven government-appointed members.

CFF published a four-part series *New Zealand in the Future World Series*. Its discussion paper, *Clarifying Values,* was based on most innovative types of background research: Brian Murphy's *Attitudes to the Future: a Social Survey,* usually called the Murphy Poll (1980), and the Televote Survey (1981). Televoting, prizes awarded at Science Fairs (a tradition NZFT